DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

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HELP FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS

SAN BERNARDINO. Whether newly diagnosed or a long-term survivor, knowing where to turn for medical care can be overwhelming for persons living with HIV.

"In San Bernardino County, 12% of all adults do not have health insurance," said Dr. Maxwell Ohikhuare, Health Officer, San Bernardino County Department of Public Health. "However, a lack of insurance should not prohibit persons from seeking qualified medical care and treatment for HIV. The Department of Public Health HIV clinics provide one such resource for persons who do not have health insurance. The County's HIV clinics offer clients a qualified team of HIV providers with experience serving persons living with HIV/AIDS."

"Our goal is to provide quality care and treatment in a confidential setting that addresses the holistic health of the person. Services include medical care, health education and risk reduction, mental health services and access to the California AIDS Drug Assistance Program", Dr. Ohikhuare said. The County's HIV clinics also provide support for partners of persons living with HIV/AIDS, known as Partner Services. Support is offered in the form of HIV/AIDS prevention education, risk reduction, and HIV testing and counseling.

The Department of Public Health collaborates with community-based organizations that provide a variety of support services to persons living with HIV/AIDS. These support services include, but are not limited to, individual counseling, support groups, housing assistance, food and medical transportation, and linkages to additional sources of medical care.

For more information about services available for people living with HIV/AIDS, partners and other family members, call the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health AIDS Program at (800) 255-6560, or visit the website at www.KnowSBC.com.

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